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# ANSWER

To the PRETENDED

## Refutation

O F

Dr. Dlyphant's  
DEFENCE

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EDINBURGH,

Printed by J. W. for Thomas Carruthers, and  
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# An Answer to the pretended Refutation, &c.

ONE might very justly imagine, that this *Refutation* had been rather design'd for that of the *Melius Inquirendum*, than of Dr. O's *Defence*, if it was not for the Title-Page: And I appeal to any man that had any Confidence in the Refuter's Ingenuity, if the Matter of Fact as it is now set down in the Refutation, be not quite different from what he imagined it was by the *Melius Inquirendum*. The Apothecary and the File in his Shop before appealed to as Witnesses, to testify the Patient's being several times Vomited, are now declined; the File he confesseth proves no such thing, and the Apothecary, says he, *cannot purge himself of partial Counsel*, which is calling in question the Honesty of that Gentleman, whom all of his Acquaintance know to be of such steady and firm Principles; that even his own Interest when at Stake, or that of his nearest Relations, could never byass him to do any thing he thought unjust or disingenuous. But it is pleasant to hear how he Declines the Patient, *because*, says he ( *if we may believe himself* ) a very mannerly Supposition by



the by, *He remembers nothing that passed for Four or Five days together after the taking the Vomit.* Why, what if he did not; does that prove he remembered nothing before he took the Vomit? Now I hope, the Refuter doth not pretend he Vomited the Patient after the Dr. had done it. It was unlucky indeed the Patient should have remembered the Dr's Vomit, and the great Benefit he found by it ( which he as justly as Generously, own'd on all Occasions, and frequently to the Dr. himself ) and in the mean time have forgot that the Ordinary had given him severals before. However, I do assure the Refuter, had the Dr. known any thing of his giving warm Water or Whey for Vomits, he would have been far from denying them place among his other *Achillean Cures* and *Pen-gun Artillery*. And here I must take notice of a most admirable turn of *Gigantick Wit* in the Refutation; the Dr. in his Defence is speaking of the *Answerer's* Remedies as no better Artillery to attack the Disease, than *Pen-Guns* would be to take a Fort; and here the Refuter most waggishly turns the Cannon on the Dr. by turning the Body of the Patient into the Cannon: *I do confess indeed, sayes he, they are but Pen-Guns in Respect of the Dr's Artillery, the Discharging of which had in stead of taking the Fort, almost split the Can-*



which was no great mark of a very good Gunner. Now, had the Ordinary by an overcharge of *Milk* and *Sugar*, burst his Clapper-pipe, and at the same time taken the port, I am certain the Dr. would have been far from upbraiding him with his small Skill in Gunnery.

I shall say nothing to the Refuter's most Christian way of detaming a Man safely, by making his Words have a double meaning, as he does also the Representation of the Matter of Fact, especially after his own fair Confession in the Refutation, where he flatly acknowledgeth he had answered both unjustly and Irregularly. And if, says he, in any thing I have Transgress'd, my Adversary is to blame, who attacked me both unjustly and irregularly; and every man must defend as he is attacked.

I am now come to these few Answers given to the Dr's Authorities in the Refutation, and shall begin with what is said to that of *Fernel*, which I find the Refuter looks on as the most Material thing he has to say. He alledgeth that in the first Quotation brought by the Dr. from *Fernel*, that Author speaks only of intermitting Fevers. Now to cut off all further Debate, I shall grant it be true; but in the mean time, if the Reasons that moved *Fernel* to Vomit in inter-



mitting Fevers, can be used for doing the  
 same in continued ones when attended with  
 Vomiting and overflowing of Gall, is it not  
 the same thing for the Dr's purpose. And  
 that it is, so is evident by the Quotation which  
 I shall again insert *Quum per accessiones mul-*  
*tæ bilis spontanea vacuatio contingit, febris si-*  
*ne Medicamento integre solvi potest. At quum*  
*ea aut nulla aut parciore existit medicatio adhi-*  
*benda, ne neglecta Febris speciem mutet & de-*  
*terior vel prolixior evadat.* When, says he,  
 there happens by turns a great Evacuation of  
 Bile if its own accord, the Fever may end with-  
 out any Medicine; but when that is either none  
 at all or too little, Medicaments are to be giv-  
 en, lest the Fever by being neglected, change  
 its Species, and become worse and of longer con-  
 tinuance. And afterwards, *Quum enim pre-*  
*cipue impura sit prima corporis Regio, in qua*  
*& humor noxius fluctuat, statim initio ejus*  
*nonnihil tempestive expurgandum est, preser-*  
*tim si vel oris amaror, vel Cordis dolor, vel*  
*Nausea vel in appetentia vel suffocatio acrius*  
*urget.* For seeing the Stomach and intestines  
 ( which is the Prima Corporis Regio ) in  
 which the Noxious Humour fluctuates, are most  
 unclean, some of it is to be timeously evacuated  
 in the beginning, especially if there be bitter-  
 ness in the Mouth, Oppression of the Heart, or  
 squeamishness or want of Appetite or suffocati-  
 on.



( 7 )  
Now, I would gladly know if any Man  
show the least Reason, why all that may  
be applyed to Continued Fevers that  
have Remissions, and are attended with  
dounding Choller, as are these Fevers  
the Dr. first discoursed of. And in ef-  
fect the Affinity between Agues and most  
our Fevers is so great, that not only Vo-  
miting, but the *Kinkina* or *Jesuit's Bark*,  
the true Specifick Cure of Agues has been  
very succesfully introduced into the Cure of  
them.

He comes next to *Celsus*, whom the Dr.  
own'd both in his first discourse and defence  
to have used warm Water for a Vo-  
mit, and gives a good Reason for it; but to  
give that now for one in any case, except  
perhaps after a slight Surfeit, is truely to  
treat the practice of Medicine in Ridicule.  
And I wonder if the Refuter would use the  
*Kinkina* in an Ague, or the *Ipeca Coanha* in  
Dysentery, because *Celsus* knew nothing of  
them.

After that he passeth over those pat Quo-  
tations of *Willis*, *Sylvius*, *Etmuller*, *Micha-*  
*el Hartman*, and Dr. *Tournefort's* Testimo-  
ny, that it was the Practice of the best Phy-  
sicians in *France*, not only to give *Antimoni-*  
*Vomits*, and the other most *Drastick Me-*  
*dicines*, but to mix Vomiting and Purging  
Medi-



Medicines together, all which the Dr. had Riveted in his Defence; until he comes to Sydenham. Neither doth he Answer the Quotations brought from him; but tells us from the *Schedula Monitoria*, that he used Blooding & Purging in *Febribus quamplurimarum specierum*, in very many sorts of Fevers, & not in most part of Fevers, as the Refuter Translates it; which is very true, but these were properly Symptomatical Fevers of the *Inflammatory* kind, and quite different from these the Dr. speaks of, which are ten to one the most ordinary here, and even Sydenham had practised a long time before he had seen any other, as he tells himself in the Preface to these Fevers he Cures by Vomiting, *Quo quidem tempore*, says he, *nondum mihi innotuerat, aliam aliquam Febris Speciem in rerum natura inveniri.* At which time (which was a good time after he had Practised Physick) it was not known to me, there was any other sort of Fever to be found in Nature. And how much a Kin those Fevers were to Agues he tells in the same Preface in these Words. *Dicta itaque Febris continua Intermittentium quasi Compendium quoddam, & e contra singuli earum Paroxyismi Compendium hujusce m. i. videbantur; atque adeo discrimen in hoc maxime versari, quod continuæ conceptam semel effervescentiam Sunechoos eodemque semper tenore perficerent; intermittentes autem*

par-



*itis vicibus ac diversis temporibus eadem  
 ungerentur. Therefore, says he, the fore-  
 id continued Fever seemed to me as a sort of  
 ompend of the Intermitting Ones; and on the  
 her hand, each Fit of those seemed a Compend  
 of this; so that the Difference lay mostly in this,  
 that the continued Fevers did hold out in the  
 same Tenor, and did perfect without Intermissi-  
 on the Effervescence they had begun; whereas  
 the Intermitting Fevers did the same at diffe-  
 rent times and by Intervals. And that this is  
 positively true in most Fevers we have, and  
 most remarkably so in these we have had this  
 Season, every Man that hath accurately ob-  
 served will easily be convinced.*

At last he comes to Dr. P's *Dissertation of  
 the Cure of Fevers by Evacuation*, and tells us,  
*that there Sweating is proposed as the best and  
 readiest Evacuation for Curing all Fevers, with-  
 out any respect to the Seat of the Morbifick Mat-  
 ter.* I Answer, that Dr. P. did not Design  
 that Discourse for the Use of any who did  
 not know that nothing could be Evacuated  
 by Sweating which did not immediatly come  
 from the Blood, so that the Morbifick Matter  
 must of necessity be Seated in the Blood and  
 Blood-Vessels, before it could be brought a-  
 way by Sweating, and not in the Stomach  
 as Dr. O. supposed.

I have



I have now done with my Answer to that Refutation of the Defence, and leave it to be judged by any Man that is Impartial, whether or not it deserves that Title. I am quite Tired with the Subject, and shall conclude all with a Letter the Dr. received from a *Physician* at *London* of his Acquaintance, concerning his *Short Discourse*, which I hope the Reader will neither find Impertinent nor Tedious, it being written by one whose Wit and Good Humor are equal to his Learning and Ingenuity.

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D E A R



DEAR SIR.

Thank you for the Present of your small Treatise about Vomiting in Fevers, but at the same time, I approve of your Reasons, you must give me leave to condemn your Conduct : I know you begin to storm at this; But have a little Patience. There was a Physician of this Town, perhaps the most Famous in his time, being called to his Patient, complaining ( it may be ) of an Oppression at his Stomach; he would very safely and cautiously order him a Gentle Decoction of *Carduus*, sometimes hot Water; I don't know but he would allow now and then fat *Mutton Broth* too. The Patient was Vomited, and the Doctor could justify himself that he had not omitted that necessary evacuation; this was his constant Practice. Being Chid by his Colleagues, who well knew he neglected *Antimony*, not out of Ignorance or Fear, he would Roguishly tell them, Come, come Gentlemen, that might cure my Patient, but it would kill the Distemper, and I should have less Money in my Pocket. A pretty Business indeed, a Rich Citizen overgorges himself, which by Management may be improv'd into a good substantial Fever, worth at least Twenty Guineas; and you would have me nip the Plant



Plant in the Bud, have a Guinea for my Pains, and lose the Reputation of a safe Practitioner to boot. The Gentleman had Reason; all Trades must live. Alas! our People here are grown too quick-sighted, they will have *Antimonial Vomits*, and a Physician dares not omit them, tho' it is many a good Fee out of his Pocket. Join I say with these Wise Gentlemen; they wish well to the Faculty; procure an Order of the Colledge, and banish *Antimony* the City of *Edinburgh*, and the liberties thereof. 'Tis a Barbarous thing in these hard times to strangle an Infant Distemper; they ought no more to be murdered than young Cattle in Lent. Let it be as great a Crime to kill a Fever with an *Antimonial Vomit*, as to Fish in Spawning time. The *Dutch Physicians* are like the rest of their Nation, Wise; they banish that Heathenish *Jesuitical Drug* that would quickly reduce their Practice to a narrow Compass in the hopefulest Distemper of the Countrey. These Rogues that Dream of nothing but *Specificks* and *Panaceas*, I would have them all hang'd, not so much for the folly of the Attempt, as the Malice of their Intention; Rascals, to starve so many worthy Gentlemen, that perhaps know no otherwise to get their Livelihood. Will the Glasiers ever puzzle themselves to make Glass Malle-

able



ble, would the Knitters ever so much as have dreamed of a Stocking-Loom, or the young Writers Petition'd to have Informations Printed; All those are Wise in their Generation, and must the Physicians be the only Fools?

We all know here there is no danger in *Antimonial Vomits*, but this is *inter nos*; you must not tell your Patient so, let them believe as I said before, that *Antimonial Vomits* are dangerous, deleterial, break the fibres of the Stomach, &c. and that you cannot safely give them. So shall you be styled a cautious safe Physician, one that won't spoil the Curll of a Man's Hair to pull him out of a River. We have some dangerous Dogs here, that in a *Quinsy*, when a Man is ready to be chock'd, will blood him forty Ounces at once; is not this extremely hazardous? They cut off Limbs, cut for the Stone; is this safe? I tell you the Reputation of a wary safe Physician is worth all the Parts of his Character besides. Now I hope you will allow I have Reason for what I said.

I have seen the *Melius Inquirendum*, and am too well acquainted with the Stile and Spelling, not to know that it is Dr. *Eyzat's*; but here I must be with you again, how come you to write against one that says *two*



*Drams of Emetick Wine* is a sufficient Dose for a Man. Suffer not such things to come abroad; they will imagine you are not got so far as the *Circulation* of the Blood in *Scotland*; write seriously against such People. Fy upon't, I will never allow them to be above the Dispensation of *Ballads* and *Doggrel*, &c. I am  
Sir

Yours, &c.

London, August  
23, 1699.

F I N I S



